SEP 2 1 2004

Docket No. HOE96/F318

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PRODUCING

Applicants:

Fritz Schwertfeger

Group Art Unit: 1762

Appln. No.:

09/308,770

Examiner: Kristen Jolley

Filed:

October 28, 1999

Confirmation No.: 6628

For:

METHOD FOR

ORGANICALLY

MODIFIED.

PERMANENTLY HYDROPHOBIC AEROGELS

OFFICIAL PAPER - Kristen Jolley

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Enclosure: Amendment and Response to Office Action

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Lyn M. Coveno

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P.02

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In re Application of: Fritz Schwertfeger

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U.S. Serial No.:

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Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 22, 2004, Applicant respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are included in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

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